

FLO

of enterprising greedily, as an unblemished conscience and inflexible resolution are above an accidental flow of spirits, or a sudden tide of blood. *Pope.*

3. A stream of diction; volubility of tongue. Teaching is not a flow of words, nor the draining of an hour-glass; but an effectual procuring that a man know something which he knew not before, or to know it better. *South.*

FLOWER. *n. f.* [*flour*, French; *flus, flores*, Latin.]

1. The part of a plant which contains the seeds.

Such are reckoned perfect flowers which have petala, a stamen, apex and stylus; and whatever flower wants either of these is reckoned imperfect. Perfect flowers are divided into simple ones, which are not composed of other smaller ones, and which usually have but one single style; and compounded, which consist of many florets, all making but one flower. Simple flowers are monopetalous, which have the body of the flower all of one intire leaf, though sometimes cut or divided a little way into many seeming petala, or leaves; as in borage, buglofs, &c. or polypetalous, which have distinct petala, and those falling off singly, and not all together, as the seeming petala of monopetalous flowers always do: but those are further divided into uniform and difform flowers: the former have their right and left hand parts, and the forward and backward parts all alike; but the difform have no such regularity, as in the flowers of sage, deadnettle, &c. A monopetalous difform flower is likewise further divided into, first, semi-fistular, whose upper part resembles a pipe cut off obliquely, as in the aristotochia: 2d, labiate; and this either with one lip only, as in the acanthum and scordium, or with two lips, as in the far greater part of the labiate flowers: and here the upper lip is sometimes turned upwards, and so turns the convex part downwards, as in the chamæcisus, &c. but most commonly the upper lip is convex above, and turns the hollow part down to its fellow below, and so represents a kind of helmet, or monkhood; and from thence these are frequently called galeate, cucullate, and galeculatæ flowers; and in this form are the flowers of the lamium, and most verticillate plants. Sometimes also the lamium is intire, and sometimes jagged or divided. 3d, Coriculate; that is, such hollow flowers as have on their upper part a kind of spur, or little horn, as in the linaria, delphinium, &c. and the carniculum, or calcar, is always impervious at the tip or point. Compounded flowers are either, first, discous or discoidal; that is, whose florets are set together so close, thick, and even, as to make the surface of the flower plain and flat, which therefore, because of its round form, will be like a discus; which disk is sometimes radiated, when there is a row of petala standing round in the disk, like the points of a star, as in the maricaria, chamæmelum, &c. and sometimes naked, having no such radiating leaves round the limb of its disk, as in the tanacetum: 2d, planifolious, which is composed of plain flowers, set together in circular rows round the centre, and whose face is usually indented, notched uneven and jagged, as the hieracia, &c. 3d, fistular, which is compounded of many long hollow little flowers, like pipes, all divided into large jaggs at the ends. Imperfect flowers, because they want the petala, are called staminateous, apetalous, and capillaceous; and those which hang pendulous by fine threads, like the juli, are by Tournefort called amentaceous, and we call them cat-tail. The term campaniformis is used for such as are in the shape of a bell, and infundibuliformis for such as are in the form of a funnel. *Miller.*

Good men's lives

Expire before the flowers in their caps,

Dying or ere they sicken. *Shakespeare's Macbeth.*

With flow'r inwoven tresses torn,

The nymphs in twilight shade of tangled thickets mourn. *Milton.*

Beauteous flow'rs why do we spread

Upon the monuments of the dead? *Cowley.*

Though the same fun with all-diffusive rays

Blush in the rose and in the diamond blaze,

We praise the stronger effort of his power,

And always let the gem above the flower. *Pope.*

If the blossom of the plant be of most importance, we call it a flower; such are daisies, tulips, and carnations. *Watts.*

2. An ornament; an embellishment.

This discourse of Cyprian, and the excellent flowers of rhetoric in it, shew him to have been a sweet and powerful orator. *Huicwill on Providence.*

Truth needs no flow'rs of speech. *Pope.*

3. The prime; the flourishing part.

Alas! young man, your days can ne'er be long:

In flow'r of age you perish for a long. *Pope's Horace Impr.*

4. The edible part of corn; the meal.

The bread I would have in flowers, so as it might be baked still to serve their necessary want. *Spenser on Ireland.*

I can make my audit up, that all

From me do back receive the flow'r of all,

And leave me but the bran. *Shakespeare's Coriolanus.*

The flowers of grains, mixed with water, will make a fort

of glue. *Arbutnot on Aliments.*

1. The state of abounding in flowers.

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But by thy care twelve urns of wine be fill'd,

Next these in worth, and firm those urns be seal'd;

Be twice ten measures of the choicest flour

Prepar'd, ere yet descends the evening hour. *Pope's Odyssey.*

5. The most excellent or valuable part of any thing; quintessence.

The choice and flower of all things profitable the Palms

do more briefly contain, and more movingly express, by reason of their poetical form. *Hasker.*

Thou hast slain

The flower of Europe for his chivalry. *Shakespeare's Henry VI.*

The French monarchy is exhausted of its bravest subjects;

the flower of the nation is consumed in its wars. *Addison.*

6. That which is most distinguished for any thing valuable

He is not the flower of courtesy; but, I warrant him, as gentle as a lamb. *Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet.*

FLOWER de LUCE. *n. f.* A bulbous iris.

It hath a lily flower of one leaf, shaped like that of the common iris: the pointal has three leaves, and the empaleme

turns to a fruit shaped like that of the common iris. Its root is bulbous. *Miller* specifies thirty-four species of this plant; and among them the Persian flower de luce is greatly esteemed for the sweetness and beauty of its variegated flowers, which are in perfection in February, or the beginning of March.

Crop'd are the flowers de luce in your arms;

Of England's coat one half is cut away. *Shakespeare's Henry VI.*

The iris is the flower de luce. *Pendham.*

To FLOW'ER. *v. n.* [*flurir*, French, or from the noun.]

1. To be in flower; to be in blossom; to bloom; to put forth flowers.

So forth they marched in this goodly fort,

To take the solace of the open air,

And in fresh flowering fields themselves to sport. *Fairy Queen.*

Sacred hill, whose head full high,

Is, as it were, for endless memory

Of that dear Lord, who oft thereon was found,

For ever with a flow'ring garland crown'd. *Fairy Queen.*

Then herbs of every leaf, that sudden flower'd,

Op'ning their various colours. *Milton's Paradise Lost, b. vii.*

Mark well the flow'ring almonds in the wood,

If od'rous blooms the bearing branches load. *Dryd. Georg.*

To leafless shrubs the flow'ring palms succeed,

And od'rous myrtle to the noisome weed. *Pope's Messiah.*

2. To be in the prime; to flourish.

Whilome in youth, when flower'd my youthful spring,

Like swallow swift, I wandered here and there;

For heat of heedless lust me did so sting,

That I of doubted danger had no fear. *Spenser's Pastoral.*

This cause detain'd me all my flow'ring youth,

Within a loathsome dungeon there to pine. *Shak. Hen. VI.*

3. To froth; to ferment; to mantle, as new bottled beer.

Those above water were the best, and that beer did flourish

a little; whereas that under water did not, though it were fresh. *Bacon's Natural History, N. 385.*

An extreme clarification doth spread the spirits to smooth

that they become dull, and the drink dead, which ought to have a little flowering. *Bacon's Natural History.*

4. To come as cream from the surface.

If you can accept of these few observations, which have

flowered off, and are, as it were, the burnishing of many studious and contemplative years, I here give you them to dispose of. *Milton on Education.*

To FLOW'ER. *v. a.* [from the noun.] To adorn with fictitious or imitated flowers.

FLOW'ERAGE. *n. f.* [from flower.] Store of flowers. *Di.*

FLOW'ERET. *n. f.* [*floweret*, French.] A flower; a small flower.

Sometimes her head she fondly would disguise

With gaudy garlands, or fresh flow'rets dight,

About her neck, or rings of ruffles plight. *Fairy Queen.*

No more shall trenching war channel her fields,

Nor bruise her flow'rets with the armed hoofs

Of hostile pacer. *Shakespeare's Henry IV.*

That same dew, which sometime on the buds

Was wont to swell, like round and orient pearls,

Stood now within the pretty flow'ret's eyes,

Like tears that did their own disgrace bewail. *Shakespeare.*

So to the sylvan lodge

They came, that like Pomona's arbour smil'd,

With flow'rets deck'd, and fragrant smells. *Milt. Par. Lost.*

Then laughs the childish year with flow'rets crown'd,

And lavishly perfumes the fields around;

But no substantial nourishment receives,

Infirm the stalks, unfold are the leaves. *Dryden's Fables.*

FLOW'ERGARDEN. *n. f.* [flower and garden.] A garden in which flowers are principally cultivated.

Observing that this manure produced flowers in the field, I

made my gardener try those shells in my flowergarden, and I

never saw better carnations or flowers. *Mortimer's Husbandry.*

FLOW'ERINESS. *n. f.* [from floweriness.]

1. The state of abounding in flowers.

2. Floridness

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2. Floridness of speech.

FLOW'ERING BUSH. *n. f.* A plant.

The leaves are triangular and grassy, the stalks naked, and the flowers disposed in an umbella upon the top of the stalk,

each consisting of six leaves: three of them are large, and three small, which are expanded in form of a rose. *Miller.*

FLOW'ERT. *adj.* [from flower.] Full of flowers; adorned with flowers real or fictitious.

My mother Circe, with the syrens three,

Amid't the flow'ry kirtl'd Naiades. *Milton.*

Day's harbinger

Comes dancing from the East, and leads with her

The flow'ry May, who from her green lap throws

The yellow cowslip and the pale primrose. *Milton.*

O'er his fair limbs a flow'ry vest he threw. *Pope's Odyssey.*

To her the shady grove, the flow'ry field,

The streams and fountains, no delight could yield. *Pope.*

FLOW'INGLY. *adv.* [from flow.] With volubility; with abundance.

FLOWK. *n. f.* [*flake*, Scott.] A flounder; the name of a fish.

Amongst these the flowk, sole, and plaice follow the tide up

into the fresh waters. *Carew's Survey of Cornwall.*

FLOW'RWORT. *n. f.* The name of a plant.

FLOWN. Participle of fly, or flee, they being confounded.

1. Gone away.

For those,

Appointed to sit there, had left their charge,

Flown to the upper world. *Milton's Paradise Lost, b. x.*

Where the high majesty of David's throne?

2. Puffed; inflated; elate.

And when night

Darkens the freets, then wander forth the sons

Of Belial, flown with insolence and wine. *Milton's P. L.*

FLUCTUATE. *adj.* [*fluctuans*, Latin.] Wavering; uncertain.

To be longing for this thing to-day, and for that thing to-morrow; to change likings for loathings, and to stand willing and hankering at a venture, how is it possible for any man to be at rest in this fluctuant wandering humour and opinion?

3. To roll to and again as water in agitation.

The fluctuating fields of liquid air,

With all the curious meteors hovering there,

And the wide regions of the land, proclaim

The Pow'r Divine, that rais'd the mighty frame. *Blackmore.*

2. To float backward and forward, as with the motion of water.

3. To move with uncertain and hasty motion.

The temper

New part puts on; and, as to passion mov'd,

Fluctuates disturb'd. *Milton's Paradise Lost, b. ix.*

4. To be in an uncertain state; to feel sudden vicissitudes.

As the greatest part of my estate has been hitherto of an

unsteady and volatile nature, either tost upon seas, or fluctuating in funds, it is now fixed and settled in substantial acres and tenements. *Addison's Spectator, N. 549.*

5. To be irresolute; to be undetermined.

FLUCTUATION. *n. f.* [*fluctuatio*, Latin; *fluctuation*, French, from fluctuate.]

1. The alternate motion of the water.

Its fluctuations are but motions subservient, which winds, storms, shores, shelves, and every interjacency irregulates.

They were caused by the impulses and fluctuation of water in the bowels of the earth. *Woodward's Natural History.*

2. Uncertainty; indetermination.

It will not hinder it from making a profelyte of a person, that loves fluctuation of judgment little enough to be willing to be eased of it by any thing but error. *Boyle.*

FLUE. *n. f.* [A word of which I know not the etymology, unless it be derived from flew of fly.]

1. A small pipe or chimney to convey air, heat, or smoke.

2. Soft down or fur, such as may fly in the wind.

FLUE'LIN. *n. f.* The herb SPEEDWELL.

FLUENCY. *n. f.* [from fluent.]

1. The quality of flowing; smoothness; freedom from harshness or asperity.

Fluency of numbers, and most expressive figures for the poet, morals for the serious, and pleasantries for admirers of points of wit.

2. Readiness; copiousness; volubility.

Our publick liturgy must be cashiered, the better to please those men who gloried in their extemporary vein and fluency. *King Charles.*

Th' unthinking victors vainly boast their pow'rs;

Be their's the milqueto, while the tongue is ours:

We reason with such fluency and fire,

The beams we battle, and the learned tire. *Tickell.*

The common fluency of speech in many men, and most women, is owing to a scarcity of matter, and a scarcity of words;

for whoever is a master of language, and hath a mind full of ideas, will be apt, in speaking, to hesitate upon the choice of both. *Swift's Thoughts on various Subjects.*

FLUENT. *adj.* [*fluens*, Latin.]

1. Liquid.

It is not malleable; but yet is not fluent, but stupified. *Bac.*

2. Flowing; in motion; in flux.

Motion being a fluent thing, and one part of its duration being absolutely independent upon another, it doth not follow that because any thing moves this moment, it must necessarily continue to do so to the next. *Ray on the Creation.*

3. Ready; copious; voluble.

Those have some natural dispositions, which have better grace in youth than in age, such as is a fluent and luxurious speech. *Bacon.*

I shall lay before you all that's within me,

And with most fluent utterance. *Denham's Sephy.*

FLUENT. *n. f.* Stream; running water.

Confiding in their hands, that sed'ulous strive

To cut th' outrageous fluent; in this distress,

Ev'n in the fight of death. *Phillips.*

FLUID. *adj.* [*fluidus*, Latin; *fluide*, French.] Having parts easily separable; not solid.

Or serve they as a flow'ry verge to bind

The fluid skirts of that same wat'ry cloud,

Left it again dissolve, and show'r the earth? *Milt. P. Lost.*

If particles slip easily, and are of a fit size to be agitated by heat, and the heat is big enough to keep them in agitation, the body is fluid; and if it be apt to stick to things, it is humid. *Newton's Opt.*

FLUID. *n. f.* [In physics.] Any animal juice: as the blood.

Consider how luxury hath introduced new diseases, and with them, not improbably, altered the whole course of the fluids. *Arbutnot and Pope's Mart. Scriblerus.*

FLUIDITY. *n. f.* [*fluiditas*, Fr. from fluid.] The quality in bodies opposite to solidity; want of adherence between the parts.

Heat promotes fluidity very much, by diminishing the tenacity of bodies: it makes many bodies fluid, which are not fluid in cold, and increases the fluidity of tenacious liquids; as of oil, balsam and honey; and thereby decreases their resistance. *Newton's Opt.*

A disease opposite to this spiffitude is too great fluidity. *Arb.*

FLUIDNESS. *n. f.* [from fluid.] That quality in bodies opposite to stability.

What if we should say that fluidity, and stability depends so much upon the texture of the parts, that, by the change of that texture, the same parts may be made to constitute either a fluid or a dry body, and that permanently too? *Boyle.*

FLUMMERY. *n. f.* A kind of food made by coagulation of wheateflower or oatmeal.

Milk and flummery are very fit for children. *Lucke.*

FLUNG. participle and prete ite of fling. Thrown; cast.

Several statues the Romans themselves flung into the river, when they would revenge themselves. *Addison on Italy.*

FLUOR. *n. f.* [Latin.]

1. A fluid state.

The particles of fluids which do not cohere too strongly, and are of such a smallness as renders them most susceptible of those agitations which keep liquors in a fluid, are most easily separated and rarified into vapours. *Newton's Opt.*

2. Catamenia.

FLU'RY. *n. f.*

1. A gust or storm of wind; a hasty blast.

The boat was overfet by a sudden flurry from the North. *Gulliver's Travels.*